

17⁵⁷ The method of claim 41, wherein the reporter or the quencher comprises a rhodamine-dye. ^{fluorescein}

18⁵⁸ The method of claim 41, wherein the reporter or quencher is selected from the group consisting of a xanthene dye and a naphthylamine dye.

19⁵⁹ The method of claim 41, wherein the oligonucleotide probe is not capable of extension by the nucleic acid polymerase.

20⁶⁰ The method of claim 59, wherein the polymerase is a thermostable nucleic acid polymerase. ¹⁹

21⁶¹ The method of claim 59, wherein the reporter is a fluorescein dye and the quencher is a rhodamine dye. ¹⁹

22⁶² The method of claim 61, wherein the fluorescent reporter is attached to the 5' end of the probe. ²¹

23⁶³ The method of claim 62, wherein the probe is 15 to 60 nucleotides in length. ²²

24⁶⁴ The method of claim 62, wherein the probe is 18 to 30 nucleotides in length. ²²

25⁶⁵ The method of claim 61, wherein the fluorescent reporter is attached to the 3' end of the probe. ²¹

26⁶⁶ The method of claim 65, wherein the probe is 15 to 60 nucleotides in length. ²¹

27⁶⁷ The method of claim 65, wherein the probe is 18 to 30 nucleotides in length. ²¹

28 68. The method of claim 59, wherein the fluorescent reporter is attached to the 5' end of the probe. 19

29 69. The method of claim 68, wherein the probe is 15 to 60 nucleotides in length. 28

30 70. The method of claim 68, wherein the probe is 18 to 30 nucleotides in length. 28

31 71. The method of claim 59, wherein the fluorescent reporter is attached to the 3' end of the probe. 19

32 72. The method of claim 71, wherein the probe is 15 to 60 nucleotides in length. 31

33 73. The method of claim 71, wherein the probe is 18 to 30 nucleotides in length. 31

34 74. The method of claim 59, wherein the fluorescent reporter or the quencher comprises a rhodamine dye. 19

35 75. The method of claim 59, wherein the fluorescent reporter or the quencher comprises a rhodamine dye. 19

36 76. The method of claim 59, wherein the reporter or quencher is selected from the group consisting of a xanthene dye and a naphthylamine dye.-- 19

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. By the present amendment, claims 56-76 have been added. Accordingly, claims 41-76 are pending.